

Interview Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/615,255	MADSEN, JEFFREY C.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	David H Bollinger	3653

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) David H Bollinger. (3) _____.

(2) Mr. Todd Rathe. (4) _____.

Date of Interview: 12 August 2004.

Type: a) Telephonic b) Video Conference
c) Personal [copy given to: 1) applicant 2) applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) Yes e) No.
If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: Claims of record and proposed new claims 23-33.

Identification of prior art discussed: Art of record.

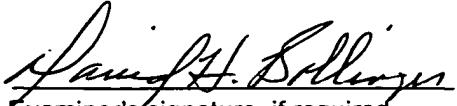
Agreement with respect to the claims f) was reached. g) was not reached. h) N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: See attached.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.


Examiner's signature, if required

Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record

A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews

Paragraph (b)

In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:

- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case. It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:

- 1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
- 2) an identification of the claims discussed,
- 3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
- 4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
- 5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,
(The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
- 6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
- 7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

Examiner to Check for Accuracy

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

1. Discussed amendment proposed by applicant. A copy of which is attached. The examiner indicated that the amendments to the claims present in the proposed amendment would overcome the art of record. The examiner pointed out that the specification did not provide antecedent basis for the media driving surfaces defined in the new claims 23-33. The examiner also questioned the recitation of a second barrier found in claim 27.



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Total # of Pages 7 (including this page)

TO:	PHONE #:	FAX #:
DAVID H. BOLLINGER Patent & Trademark Office	703-308-1142	703-308-0552 PLEASE CALL BEFORE SENDING FAX

From : Todd A. Rathe
Email Address : trathe@foley.com
Sender's Direct Dial : 414.297.5710
Date : August 10, 2004
Client/Matter No : 084061-0697
User ID No : 0661

MESSAGE:

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Operator:	Time Sent:	Return Original To: Todd Rathe
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**DRAFT OF PROPOSED CLAIM AMENDMENTS AND
CLAIM ADDITIONS**

ATTENTION: EXAMINER DAVID H. BOLLINGER

**FOR TELEPHONIC INTERVIEW SCHEDULED FOR
AUGUST 12, 2004 AT 3:00 PM., EST**

FAX NUMBER: (703) 308-0552

Applicant:

Jeffrey C. Madsen

Title:

MEDIA DUPLEXER WITH DISAPPEARING SHEET
BARRIER

Appl. No.:

10/615,255

Filing Date:

07/08/2003

Examiner:

Bollinger, David H.

Art Unit:

3653

1. (Currently Amended) A duplexer for a media handling system, said duplexer comprising:

a sheet barrier suspended between upper and lower rotation points, wherein said sheet barrier comprises a belt having at least one barrier separated by at least one opening, and wherein said sheet barrier is configured to rotate rotates about said upper and lower rotation points; and

retractable pinch rollers disposed at an entry to said duplexer, wherein said retractable pinch rollers retract when one of said at least one barrier is rotated near said entry to said duplexer,

wherein media enters said duplexer through one of said at least one opening.

2. (Original) The media duplexer of claim 1 further comprising entry and exit pinch rollers, wherein, when said retractable pinch rollers are retracted, said entry pinch rollers hold said print media entering said duplexer and said exit pinch rollers hold said print media exiting said duplexer.

3. (Currently Amended) The media duplexer of claim 1 wherein said retractable pinch rollers are movable move into an entry position to accept said print media entering said duplexer.

4. (Currently Amended) The media duplexer of claim 1 wherein said retractable pinch rollers are movable move into an exit position to expel said print media exiting said duplexer.

5. (Original) The media duplexer of claim 1 wherein said upper and lower belt pulleys rotate said sheet barrier using one of:

- a tractor drive;
- a chain drive;
- a slotted belt drive; and
- a friction belt drive.

6. (Original) The media duplexer of claim 1 wherein said media handling system comprises one or more of a printer, a scanner, a fax, and a multifunction device.

7. (Original) The media duplexer of claim 1 wherein said barrier material comprises at least one of:

- polyamide;
- fabric;
- plastic; and
- rubber.

8. (Original) The media duplexer of claim 7 wherein said barrier material exhibits one or more of:

- anti-static property;
- non-stick property;
- rigidity across a width of said sheet barrier; and
- flexibility.

9. (Original) The media duplexer of claim 1 wherein said print media exits said duplexer thru one of said at least one opening.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for accommodating two pages in a duplexer at the same time, said duplexer having a rotating barrier disposed therein, said rotating barrier having barrier material separated by [[an]] open [[gap]] gaps, said method comprising:

pushing a current page into an exit path from said duplexer through one of said open gaps;

directing a next page into an input path;

rotating said barrier material between said next page entering said duplexer and said current page exiting said duplexer, wherein said one of said open gaps is positioned to allow said current page to exit said duplexer;

pulling said current page completely from said duplexer; and

rotating another of said open gaps into a position opening said exit path to said next page.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 further comprising:

pushing said next page into said exit path.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10 further comprising:

retracting a set of retractable pinch rollers within said duplexer when said barrier material is rotated between said next page and said current page.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 further comprising:

pinching said set of retractable pinch rollers when said open gaps are rotated.

14. (Original) The method of claim 12 further comprising:

reversing a direction of said set of retractable pinch rollers to change said direction of one or more of said current page and said next page.

15. (Original) The method of claim 12 further comprising:

shifting said set of retractable pinch rollers to an output position to expel said current page; and

shifting said set of retractable pinch rollers to an input position to accept said next page into said duplexer.

16. (Original) A system for a changing media orientation in a media handling system, said system having a revolving obstructor disposed therein, said revolving obstructor having at least one opening therein, said system comprising:

means for directing a media page within said system to an exit path through one of said at least one opening;

means for rotating said barrier material between a next page entering said system and said current page exiting said system, wherein one of said at least one opening is positioned to allow said current page to exit said system;

means for pulling said current page completely from said system; and

means for rotating said at least one opening into a position exposing said exit path to said next page.

17. (Original) The system of claim 16 further comprising:

means for pushing said next page into said exit path.

18. (Original) The system of claim 16 further comprising:

means for retracting a set of retractable pinch rollers within said system when said barrier material is rotated between said next page and said current page.

19. (Original) The system of claim 18 further comprising:

means for pinching said set of retractable pinch rollers when said at least one opening is rotated.

20. (Original) The system of claim 18 further comprising:

means for reversing a direction of said set of retractable pinch rollers to change said direction of one or more of said current page and said next page.

21. (Original) The system of claim 18 further comprising:

means for shifting said set of retractable pinch rollers to an output position to expel said current page; and

means for shifting said set of retractable pinch rollers to an input position to accept said next page into said system.

22. (Original) The system of claim 16 wherein said media handling system comprises one of a printer, a scanner, a fax, and a multifunction unit.

23. (New) A media handling system comprising:

a first media drive surface;

a second media drive surface; and

a first barrier movable between a first position in which the first barrier is adapted to extend between the first sheet and the second sheet while the first sheet and the second sheet are simultaneously received between the first media driving surface and the second media driving surface and a second position in which the first barrier is removed from between the first sheet and the second sheet.

24. (New) The system of claim 23 wherein the barrier rotates about a plurality of axes between the first position and the second position.

25. (New) The system of claim 23 wherein the first media driving surface and the second media driving surface comprise rollers.

26. (New) The system of claim 23 wherein the first media driving surface and the second media driving surface are movable between a first state in which the surfaces pinch one of the first sheet and the second sheet therebetween and a second state in which the surfaces are spaced apart to simultaneously receive the first sheet and the second sheet.

27. (New) The system of claim 23 including a second barrier movable between a third position in which the second barrier is adapted to extend between the second sheet and a third sheet while the second sheet and the third sheet are simultaneously received between the first media driving surface and the second media driving surface and a second position in which the second barrier is removed from between the second sheet and the third sheet.

28. (New) The system of claim 27 including a belt providing the first barrier and the second barrier, wherein the first barrier and the second barrier are separated by a first gap and a second gap.

29. (New) The system of claim 23 including a belt providing the first barrier, the belt including a gap adjacent the first barrier.

30. (New) A duplexing method comprising:

moving a first sheet of media in a first direction while between a first media driving surface and a second media driving surface;

moving the first sheet of media in a second opposite direction while between the first media driving surface and the second media driving surface;

moving a second sheet of media in the first direction while between the first media driving surface and the second media driving surface; and

moving a barrier between a first position in which the barrier is between the first sheet and the second sheet while the first sheet and the second sheet are simultaneously received between the first media driving surface and the second driving surface and a second position in which the barrier is removed from between the first sheet and the second sheet.

31. (New) The method of claim 30 including rotating the barrier around a rotation point.

32. (New) The method of claim 31 wherein the barrier forms first and second portions opposite one another on opposite sides of the rotation point and between the first media driving surface and the second media driving surface.

33. (New) The method of claim 31 wherein rotating the barrier includes rotating a belt providing the barrier and having a gap adjacent the barrier and wherein the gap receives the second sheet while the barrier is between the first sheet and the second sheet.